

Executive Registry

77-4950

23 June 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA : Deputy Director for Intelligence
FROM :
Director of Economic Research
SUBJECT : Your Attendance at a Meeting of
the Advisory Committee on East-West
Trade, Department of Commerce
29 June 1977
REFERENCE : My memorandum to Assistant for Public
Affairs, 16 June 1977 (Attached)

1. Action Requested: I recommend that you do not attend the 29 June meeting of the Advisory Committee on East-West Trade for the reasons stated below.

2. Background: In my recent memorandum to Herbert Hetu (attached) I indicated that we had been invited to give a presentation at a meeting of the Advisory Committee on East-West Trade at Commerce on 29 June and that this meeting would be open to the press and would undoubtedly receive considerable publicity. You have since asked whether it might be useful for you to attend the meeting and give the principal presentation. I recommend that you not do so because the meeting is designed to discuss in great detail CIA estimates already made public on Soviet oil production rather than to introduce the new estimate on Soviet economic prospects. Indeed we plan to avoid any discussion of the new economic estimate in order not to upstage the policy levels in the Executive Branch or the Joint Economic Committee.

3. We plan to limit our presentation and participation in the discussion to providing a more detailed rationale and documentation for our estimates of Soviet oil production. The delegation will be

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headed by [] accompanied by our best technical experts on oil. We do not plan to invite any NIOs or economic generalists, and I do not plan to attend. By so limiting our representation we can more easily avoid being drawn into discussion of the implications of the Soviet oil problem. We plan to indicate that an unclassified paper on Soviet economic prospects will be published in a few weeks.

4. To support our analysis we will make available at the meeting an unclassified technical study of Soviet oil reserves, oil production and plans, and oil technology. This study will be distributed in typescript form and will be formally published later and disseminated through Document Expediting Project (DOCEX), Library of Congress channels. We also will send personal copies to perhaps 100 or so specialists in academia, industry and the trade press.

5. Concerning our estimates of Soviet economic prospects we plan to prepare:

-- an article for the NID and the EIW next week, summarizing the paper.

-- a full classified and unclassified version of the paper by the week of July 5th.

Attached:
as stated

/s/ Stansfield Turner

APPROVED

Director of Central Intelligence

DISAPPROVED:

28 JUN 1977
Director of Central Intelligence

DATE: _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DCI's question re attendance at the Advisory
Committee on East-West Trade, Department of Commerce
meeting on 29 June 1977.

1. ~~1870~~
2. File

16 June 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Public Affairs

SUBJECT : Publicity on CIA Soviet Oil Estimates

REFERENCE : DD/OER Memorandum, dated 14 June 1977,
Proposed Press Statement on Energy
Study

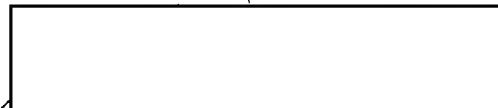
1. In the referenced memorandum to you from [] we described the various coming opportunities for positive publicity on CIA estimates of Soviet oil. I have since obtained additional information on the meeting at Commerce scheduled for 29 June 1977 which indicates that this should be a golden opportunity to spell out and publicize our views and the basis for them. The occasion will be a meeting of Commerce's Advisory Committee on East-West Trade (see the Attachment). I have been advised that Commerce wants to use the meeting primarily to thoroughly air the CIA forecasts of Soviet oil production, demand, and trade. They expect to invite members of the responsible press, such as Business Week and the Wall Street Journal. Members of the embassies of Communist countries normally also attend these meetings.

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2. We have agreed to give a presentation and also plan to make available at the meeting a detailed unclassified study of major aspects of the Soviet oil problem (reserves, production, and technology) and an unclassified version of the recent paper on Chinese oil. In view of the fact that the DCI's Joint Economic Committee testimony would not have been released in unclassified form by that time, we would deal with the implications of the oil problem for the Soviet economy only in general terms.

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3. We feel certain that this meeting will result in a great deal of publicity, and we hope that it will help to dispel some of the misimpressions that have been fostered by uninformed press coverage.

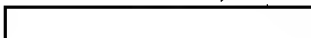


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Director
Economic Research

Attachment:
As stated

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
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